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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/780,253	02/17/2004	Jay Garfunkle	03-703	9648
20306 7590 08/22/2007 MCDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP 300 S. WACKER DRIVE 32ND FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606			EXAMINER EPPS, TODD MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT 3632	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/22/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/780,253

Applicant(s)

GARFUNKLE, JAY

Examiner

Todd M. Epps

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5-14 and 17-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5-14 and 17-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first Office Action after Request for Continued Examination (**RCE**) for serial number 10/780,253, Table Base, filed on February 17, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, 5-10, 12-14, 17-25, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,010,922 to Heller et al. (Heller) in view of U.S. Design Patent No. 447,649 to Mason, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 3,415,475 to Goodman.

Heller '922 discloses a base (12) having an aperture with internal threads (fig. 2), wherein the base may rest upon the floor; a solid one-piece spider plate (22) having an aperture with internal threads (fig. 1), wherein the spider may directly receive a table top; and a column (10) having an external surface, a first end having threads on the external surface (fig. 2), a second end having threads on the external surface (fig. 2); wherein the base (12) has a central hub surrounding the aperture (fig. 2), and has a plurality of support veins (50); wherein each of the plurality of support veins terminates in a floor pad (90); wherein the central hub of the spider plate is adapted to receive a set screw (28); wherein the spider plate (22) has a central hub surrounding the aperture (fig. 1-2), and has a plurality of unitary support arms (25); wherein each of the plurality of unitary support arms (25) has a plurality of screw holes (36); further wherein each

unitary support arm is of substantially equal length; wherein the central hub of the spider plate (22) is adapted to receive a set screw (fig. 2); wherein the base and spider plate are manufactured from iron, and how the iron is formed is a limitation on the method of making not on the product; and wherein the column is a tube, and is manufactured from steel, and wherein the spider plate is unitary structure. However, Heller '922 fails to disclose wherein the base having a dome configuration, and a plurality of unitary support veins extend from the central hub and is located underside of the base. Nevertheless, Mason '649 discloses wherein the one-piece base having a dome configuration (figs. 1-4); a plurality of unitary support veins (fig. 5) extend from the central hub and is located underside of the base (fig. 5); and wherein each unitary support vein is of substantially equal length. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the base of Heller '922 with the base as taught by Mason '649 because one would have motivated to enhance the structural strength and rigidity of the base.

Next, Heller '922 in view of Mason '649 fails to disclose wherein the dome configuration base having an aperture with internal threads. Attention is directed to Goodman '475, which discloses a dome configuration base having an aperture with internal threads. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the base of Heller '922 in view of Mason '649 to include the base having an aperture with internal threads as taught by Goodman '475 because one would have motivated to provide for superior mounting of the column into the base when both are threadly attached.

Furthermore, Heller '922 in view of Mason '649 does not disclose wherein the dome configuration base with each of the plurality of support veins terminates in a floor pad. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the dome base of Heller '922 in view of Mason '649 to include a floor pad at each end of the support veins wherein doing so would provide anti-marking means for the base when the base is being moved.

Claims 11, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heller '922 in view of Mason '649, in further view of Goodman '475 and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,081,012 to Wallace.

Regarding claim 11, Heller '922 teaches the previous invention wherein the column having threads on the external surface on both ends, but fails to specifically teach threads having an adhesive. Nevertheless, Wallace '012 teaches the well-known concept of having an adhesive on threads (fig. 1). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the threads of Heller '922 with an adhesive on threads as in Wallace '012 so as to provide for superior mounting of the column on a vertically extending object.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed August 2, 2007 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Todd M. Epps whose telephone number is 571-272-8282. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on 571-272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Todd M. Epps
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3632
August 17, 2007



A. JOSEPH WUJCIAK III
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER